

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

No. 5

March 12, 2010

FROM ENGINEER

All of a sudden spring is here!! It is certainly nice to see after a long, hard winter. Although robins are a common sight, the buzzards are back and there has been some fishing on the river we're bound to get a couple more shots of snow. The worst should be behind us. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to keep our roads clear throughout the winter.

The new engine in 986 was a victim of winter. It is at Nollenbergers now awaiting another new one. At nearly \$20,000 we are fortunate it will be covered by warranty.

Our first (and maybe last) big bid date for the year is less than a month away. Our employees are busy preparing paving plans and specs to outfit our new International tandems. A Toledo engineering firm is preparing the plans and specs for the office air handling and conditioning system.

When I meet annually with each employee I sometimes get their opinions on different things such as what equipment we need and what the condition is of our existing equipment. Opinions can vary widely. One thing that everyone seems to agree upon is the need to replace our backhoes due to their condition. When we put the budget together the estimated cost was \$85,000 apiece. Based on that we could afford one, but not two. Turns out the estimate was high and ours are worth over \$20,000 each for trade in. So we have decided to go ahead with two new New Holland's. The total price will be under \$86,000 for both. They will be basically like the ones we have now, but will have A/C.

The generator and air compressor have been removed from Building 1 and will be taken to the consignment sale at the fairgrounds. Tim and Jan have re-connected all the electrical circuits in that building and are now restoring water service.

Steve and Chad have been busy painting in the office. Everything looks great and much more modern!

The tree trimming looks great too. A well deserved compliment was received from a Tucker Road resident.

Remember St. Patrick's Day is on Wednesday and don't forget the reason for the season (whatever that might be!)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Steve Pfeiffer March 19th

FROM THE OFFICE MANANGER

Flexible Spending Account/Section 125
Payroll deduction for FSA was taken out of this paycheck, the effective date for claims is March 1st. Please look over the information packet for filing reimbursement claims and "Benny card" instructions along with contact information. Unfortunately at this time no claims can be submitted (hopefully next week), save all receipts. I apologize for the long delay, we are the first County office to enroll in this program.

CEAO Scholarship Program

The CEO Board of Directors has established a scholarship program for Civil Engineering and/or Surveying students attending school in the State of Ohio. The scholarships are to be awarded to Civil Engineering and Surveying students at the Junior and Senior level of a Bachelors program, and to current county employees who are interested in working toward their dual registration. Applications are available and must be returned to CEO office by June 1, 2010.

Medical Mutual

New information on our VSP Vision Care plan is attached. The Access Plan provides discounts for exam and eyewear through a VSP Preferred Provider.

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

ICE CONTROL

What a difference a month makes. Snow and wind held on right till the end of February, but the first of March it warmed up and has been nice since. Rumor has it we have another big one coming around the 22nd of March, I don't believe it but I think we still have some snow coming. The good thing about it is it won't last long. I want to thank everyone for their help and dedication this winter. I know my mood along with others wasn't the greatest at times, but we worked thru it.

B#2

The back room in the office has had a facelift, the floors have been stripped and waxed, the walls and partitions have been painted, and new baseboard molding put up. Now the restrooms down stairs are being painted. After the new ventilation system is put in we will work on the ceiling tile.

Looks good!

B#1

This building is being cleaned out. The parts are being organized in the new parts room in building #11. The cabinets were cleaned up, painted and moved into building #11. Electric has been restored where we lost it from the electric upgrade. They removed the generator, air compressor, and the lube reels to take to the auction. Today they are working on a new water line to feed the wash rack. **Good job!**

BRUSH CUTTING

Today they should finish the west side town route. They have spent most of the winter on this route, when we weren't plowing, and have it looking good. It should last for a while, which is good because nobody likes to trim on this route. **Good job**

SPOT BERM

Mark and Dave have started spot berming, mainly curves and intersections, in preparation for berm dragging.

SALT

I have ordered 700 tons of salt to be delivered today, for a total of 5200 tons for the year. This should be close to filling the salt shed.

SIGN SHOP

Perry and Tim have repaired the mailboxes and signs that were reported.

SHOP

Dean and Jeff have repaired most of the breakdowns, except 986 which is at Nollenberger's, having the engine rebuilt again. It helps having spare trucks.

MIDNIGHTS

Andy and Chad should complete sign inspection Monday, weather permitting, and can get back to cleaning the vehicles.

**Don't forget to move clocks ahead
Sunday!**